

**MINUTES**  
**CITY OF BLOOMINGTON**  
**COMMISSION ON SUSTAINABILITY**

Tuesday, September 13, 2016  
6:00 pm McCloskey Room, City Hall, 401 North Morton Street

Jana called the meeting to order at 6:05 PM

**Present:** Jana McGee, Teddie Mower, Ethan Horvath, Dave Rollo, Rebecca Swanson, Molly O'Donnell, Ryan Conway

**Regrets:** Jessica Pittman, Bill Brown, Gwen White

**Staff:** Jacqui Bauer

**Public:** No members of the public were present

**Public Comment:** None

**Announcements:**

Rebecca will be starting an environmental club at Hoosier Hills.

September 28 Green Drinks presentation will be by Michael Hamburger, speaking on climatology and foreign policy.

Science Fest is on October 22 on campus.

IU's Media School has a new science communications faculty member that we may want to connect with in the future.

The Energy Challenge will host an energy fair on September 18, 2-4pm at the public library.

**Approval of Minutes:** The minutes from July and August were approved unanimously.

**Report from the Chair:**

Jana proposed a mid-month meeting to discuss the draft comprehensive plan. The commission will meet on October 4 at 5:30pm to discuss possible reactions to the draft plan.

Jacqui noted that funds to develop a sustainability plan are still in the budget, so she will be in contact about the proposed community process. She noted that it will be important to make the website, comp plan, and sustainability plan all consistent in terms of organization.

Jana met with Alex Crowley, the new director of Economic & Sustainable Development, at the meet-and-greet at the Farmers Market. Much of the discussion centered around housing, including tiny houses, senior housing and economic issues, affordable housing. Jacqui suggested the commission think about commenting on some of these issues from a sustainability perspective as they develop.

Jana also suggested a new podcast from the Dept of Energy called Direct Current.

**Report from the Sustainability Coordinator:**

The Energy Challenge will kick off Project Porchlight in the coming weeks, and will ask local residents to identify porch lights that are left on and are not energy efficient. In addition, volunteers will reach out to specific neighborhoods

The AmeriCorps NCCC team left two weeks ago and installed attic insulation in 22 households.

The Hoosier to Hoosier Sale raised \$45k and diverted about 60 tons of material from the landfill.

The City's solar project (including a group buy for residents) is continuing to move forward. Proposals will be due in mid-October. In addition, the City is moving ahead with a performance contract to improve efficiency in City facilities.

**Committee reports and updates**

1. Environmental Commission Planning Committee: there are eight development proposals being reviewed by the committee tomorrow. Rebecca expressed concern about the design of the proposed replacement of the Bloomington Bagel Company. Because the petitioners are seeking no waivers or variances, there is a limit to what the Plan Commission can do to change the design. Dave noted that form-based zoning might encourage designs that fit in better with the surroundings. Some concerns with buildings being too massive and overwhelming the streetscape.

Jacqui noted that the Downtown, Housing & Neighborhoods, and Land Use & Design chapters might be worth focusing on in terms of future development plans.

2. Environmental Commission: no report. Jana has had schedule conflicts recently. Dave will plan to tag-team to attend the meetings in the future, and will plan to attend this Thursday.

The meeting adjourned at 7:13.

Next Meeting: October 11<sup>th</sup>, McCloskey Room, City Hall at 6:00 p.m.